



ROBERT K. PAGANI  
Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

## BOARD OF FINANCE

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006

RICHARD J. CLEARY  
ROBERT J. CLEMENTS  
VAUGHN E. GERBER  
MARK A. JOYSE  
BARRY C. PINTO

**Board of Finance Members Present:** Robert K. Pagani-Chairman, Richard J. Cleary, Robert J. Clements, Mark A. Joyse, Barry C. Pinto

**Board of Finance Members Absent:** Vaughn E. Gerber

**Board of Selectmen Members Present:** M. Stupinski-First Selectman, P. Charter, A Harford, J. Prichard

**Others Present:** N. DiCorleto-Fin Officer, R. Packman-Supt of Schools, D. Roberson-Chmn BOE, G. Blanchette, T. Littizzio, M. Varney-Chief EVFD, D. Varney, P. Hany-EVAC, P. Michaud-DPW Dir.

Board of Finance Chairman Robert Pagani opened the meeting at 7:38 pm.

First Selectman Michael Stupinski presented the Board of Selectmen's recommendations for 2006/07 capital improvements budget.

#### Road Construction \$584,695

Road Overlay-\$300,000 down from \$406,000 requested. Chip sealing-\$99,695 funded from State LOCIP. Unimproved Roads-\$80,000 for work on Abbott Rd. Windermere/Pinney Street roundabout-\$60,000 Town's portion of funding. Windermere Bridge engineering-\$45,000.

#### Site Acquisition – Open Space

No funding recommended. The First Selectman stated that the Conservation Commission has requested a referendum for November to fund an open space program. Mr. Pagani stated that they need to have a plan in place to assure taxpayers that it is a viable program.

#### Building Construction

Additional Firehouse on Pinney St-\$1,185,000 to be bonded. Mr. Stupinski stated that this item may be brought to a town meeting apart from the budget process. Funds for the rehabilitation of the Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse are not being recommended and there was discussion regarding interest in the use of the building.

Building Repairs

Windermere School Soffit Repair/Painting-\$30,000

Miscellaneous \$242,700

Revaluation-\$62,700 which is final payment for the process which concluded this year.  
Townwide sidewalks-\$60,000. Mr. Michaud stated that the funds would be used for the continuation of the walks on Maple Street to the Library and from Windermere School to the five corners.

Windermere School inner courtyard improvements-\$40,000.

EHS fencing back parking lot-\$27,600

Brookside Park Fencing-\$29,400. Mr. Michaud stated that this funding is for fencing parallel to Route 140 and originated as a safety concern.

Equipment Purchase \$1,662,315

DPW Dump Trucks-\$400,000 to be leased. The request was originally \$200,000 to purchase two trucks and the Board of Selectmen increased it to 4 trucks for \$400,000 and to fund them thru a leasing program so that the payment is smaller and constant each year.

Replace one 1-ton truck-\$40,000.

Roadside mower-\$108,100 to be leased. Sweeper replacement-\$180,000 also to be leased.

Replacement Engine Tanker-\$370,000 to be leased.

EVFD Hose Equipment Upgrade Replacement-\$10,000 with balance to be funded next year.

EVFD Intersection Preemption System-\$10,000. Chief Varney stated they would probably do the Main Street traffic light with these funds.

EVAC Training Response Vehicle-\$50,000 from charging fund. Mr. Hany stated that this vehicle would be used for transporting people to other hospitals, classes, conferences, and standby at football games.

EVAC laptops-\$22,000 from charging fund due to State requiring all information be transmitted electronically.

EVAC Defibrillators-\$11,000 from charging fund to have them put in all town buildings and schools.

BOE Video Production Lab-\$50,000, there is a grant in the works for \$25,000 which would offset this amount.

Special Education Van-\$50,000.

Student Technology Update Program-\$330,000 for 300 computers leased for five years.

There was some reservation and question regarding the amount of money for each computer. R. Pagani will contact the IT person at the Board of Education to get the particulars on this expenditure.

Police Cruiser-\$31,216 to replace a 1999 Crown Victoria.

The town communication system is not being recommended for funding this year and may be phased in over future years.

Grants and other revenues amount to \$207,695 for a net recommended capital improvements budget of \$3,497,015.

Mr. Clements asked what the cost was if we take out the leased purchases. It is \$1.3 million with these items added back through debt service.

Peter Charter stated that the leases for the rescue truck and dump trucks end in 2006 and that the lease payments for the new equipment would begin in 2007. He stated that the cost of the trucks will increase by \$7,000 each unless they are ordered by June 15, 2006. He would like to see the trucks and equipment taken out of the budget and put through the Board of Selectmen and town meeting approval process before the budget referendum in order to get the cost savings. Mr. Pagani felt that the Town should not lease the equipment without budget approval.

Mr. Clements felt that it should be done through a town meeting before June in order to save \$28,000. He felt this was good fiscal responsibility. Mr. Joyse did not feel comfortable carving out portions of the budget and felt the entire budget should be presented as a whole. Mr. Charter felt that people only care about what they are paying, bottom line.

Mr. Varney was asked if any new equipment would have to be purchased for a new firehouse and he stated that existing equipment would be moved to the new station.

Mr. Joyse then suggested that some funds such as seed money should be put into the capital improvements budget for open space. Mr. Pagani reiterated the fact that the Conservation Commission needs to develop a program.

Mr. Pagani then closed the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Submitted by Lori Smith  
Lori Smith, Clerk